

# *Korean Monument*

## Removal and Conservation Treatment



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARG Conservation Services (ARG/CS) was contracted by the San Francisco Arts Commission (SFAC) in April of 2020 to remove and repair the bronze sculpture titled, *Movement: The First 100 Years (Tai: Works No. 40)*, by artist Man Lin Choi. The artwork is located in Sue Biermann Park on Drumm Street in San Francisco, California. It measures 77"(H) X 94"(W) X 65"(D) and weighs approximately 2,400 pounds. Most recently, the bronze sculpture experienced severe fire damage to the patina and required removal of the monument for repair. ARG/CS partnered with Sheedy Drayage, Pacific Masonry Restorations, and Karl Reichley's Studio to complete the removal and repair work.

The monument was removed on May 2, 2020 and conservation treatments were conducted from May 2 – May 18, 2020 at Karl Reichley's Studio. Treatments included cleaning with pressurized water, removing the existing patina, minimal buffing of large gouges and indentations, re-applying a new patina, and applying a wax-based protective coating on the bronze. All work was performed in compliance with OSHA regulations and with the *Guidelines for Practice and Code of Ethics of AIC* (American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works).

## PROJECT TEAM

### CLIENT

San Francisco Arts Commission

Jennifer Doyle Crane, *Project Manger*

### ARG CONSERVATION SERVICES

David Wessel, *Principal*

Jennifer Correia, *Associate Principal*

Megan Carver, *Project Manager*

*Sheedy Drayage Company*

*Pacific Masonry Restorations, LLC*

*Karly Reichley Sculpture Patina Restoration*

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

The bronze sculpture was in overall poor condition. The bronze had graffiti vandalism, superficial carvings, and the patina was severely damaged from a recent fire.



Image 1: Detail image of damaged patina from fire.



Image 2: Detail image of graffiti vandalism and patina damage from fire.



Image 3: Detail of graffiti vandalism.



Image 4: Detail of graffiti vandalism.

## REMOVAL AND TREATMENT

The sculpture was removed from the park by crane on Saturday, May 2, 2020 and was delivered to Karl Reichley’s studio in Richmond, California for treatment. Once removed, the tile and concrete base was demolished. The sculpture was cleaned, the patina was chemically removed, superficial markings and indentations were buffed out, and a new chemical patina and wax-based protective coating were applied to the bronze. Once treatment was complete, the sculpture and 2 bronze title plaques were transported to Atthowe Fine Arts Facility on Thursday, May 21, 2020 for long-term storage.



Image 5: Sculpture being removed from Sue Biermann Park via crane.



Image 6: Sculpture being removed from Sue Biermann Park via crane.



Image 7: Demolition of the concrete base after removal of the sculpture.



Image 8: Overall view of site after removal and demolition of base.



Image 9: Transfer of the sculpture from the flatbed into Karl Reichley's Studio.



Image 10: Detail of sculpture being cleaned at Karl Reichley's Studio.



Image 11: Image of patina removal.



Image 12: Overall image of sculpture after patina removal and buffing of indentations and gouges.

AFTER TREATMENT



